

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-9. (Cancelled)

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling a video segment and data utilizing a remote control device that interacts with a set-top box to provide enhanced interactive content based upon an identity of a current user of said personal remote control comprising:

recognizing said current user with an interface in said personal remote control unit using biometric identification;

~~establishing~~ verifying an identification of said current user based upon results of the biometric identification;

communicating said verified identification of said current user to said set-top box;

selecting preference and profile data for said current user based on the identification;

assigning the preference and profile data for said current user to a current user database within said set-top box; and

controlling display of said video segment based on said preference and profile data.

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 10, wherein the step of controlling display of said video segment is based on comparing one or more tags placed in said video segment that indicate content of said video segment to said preference and profile data within said current user database.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 10 ~~wherein said biometric identification is based on a physical attribute of said current user~~ further comprising generating a combined identification and command sequence for transmission to said set-top box.

Claim 13. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 10, wherein said biometric identification is based on an intellectual attribute of said current user.

Claim 14. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 10, further comprising the process of empirically deriving said profile data from the usage patterns of said remote control device by said current user.

Claim 15. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 10, further comprising the process of pretagging said video content to indicate content of the video stream prior to being input into said set-top box.

Claims 16-26. (Cancelled)

Claim 27. (Currently Amended). A method of controlling a video segment and data utilizing a remote control device that interacts with a set-top box to provide enhanced interactive content based upon an identity of a current user of said personal remote control comprising:

recognizing said current user with an interface in said personal remote control unit using biometric identification;

~~establishing~~ verifying said identity of said current user based upon results of the biometric identification;

communicating said verified identification of said current user to said set-top box;

selecting preference and profile data for said current user based on the identification;

assigning the preference and profile data for said current user to a current user database within said set-top box; and

controlling display of said video segment based upon said preference and profile data and a comparison of tags placed in said video segment with said preference and profile data stored in said current user database, wherein the tags are descriptive of the video segment.

Claim 28. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 27, ~~wherein said biometric identification is based on a physical attribute of said current user~~ further comprising generating a combined identification and command sequence for transmission to said set-top box.

Claim 29. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 27, wherein said biometric identification is based on an intellectual attribute of said current user.

Claim 30. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 27, further comprising the process of empirically deriving said profile data from usage patterns of said remote control device by said current user.

Claim 31. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 27, further comprising the process of pretagging said video segment to indicate content of the video segment prior to being input into said set-top box.

Claim 32. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 27, wherein said tags are created in real time by video recognition techniques utilizing key words.

Claim 33. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 27, wherein said tags are created in real time by video recognition techniques utilizing key images.

Claim 34. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 27, wherein said tags are created in real time by video recognition techniques utilizing key sounds.

Claims 35-43. (Cancelled).

Claim 44. (Currently Amended) A system for controlling the display of enhanced video content utilizing a personalized remote control device such that said enhanced video content that is displayed is based upon an identity of a current user of said personal remote control comprising:

an identification input device within said personalized remote control that ~~determines~~ verifies said identity of said current user based on biometric identification;

a communication link between said personalized remote control and said set-top box that transmits said verified identity of said current user;

a current user database located at current user's premises;

a set-top box that assigns preference and profile data based on the identity of said current user to a current user database, and that assigns preference and profile data corresponding to said current user to said current user database, and that controls said display of said enhanced video content based on said preference and profile data within said current user database.

Claim 45. (Previously Presented) A system of claim 44, wherein said control of said display of enhanced video content of said set-top box is performed by comparing tags placed in said enhanced video content to said preference and profile data within said current user database, wherein the tags are descriptive of the enhanced video content.

Claim 46. (Currently Amended) A system of claim 44, ~~wherein said biometric identification is based on a physical attribute of said current user~~ further comprising a combiner for generating a combined identification and command sequence for transmission to said set-top box.

Claim 47. (Previously Presented) A system of claim 44, wherein said biometric identification is based on an intellectual attribute of said current user.

Claim 48. (Previously Presented) A system of claim 44, wherein said preference and profile data is empirically derived from usage patterns of said remote control device by said current user.

Claim 49. (Previously Presented) A system of claim 44, wherein said enhanced video content is pretagged to indicate content of the enhanced video content.

Claims 50-61. (Cancelled).

Claim 62. (Currently Amended) A system for controlling the display of enhanced video content of a video stream utilizing a personalized remote control device such that said enhanced video content that is displayed is based upon an identity of a current user of said personal remote control comprising:

an identification input device within said personalized remote control that ~~determines~~ verifies the identity of said current user based on biometric identification;

a communication link between said personalized remote control and said set-top box that transmits said verified identity of said current user;

a current user database located at current user's premises;

a set-top box that assigns preference and profile data based on the identity of said current user to a current user database, and that assigns preference and profile data corresponding to said current user to said current user database and that controls said display of said video content based on said preference and profile data within said current user database, and that controls said display of said enhanced video content based on comparing tags placed in said video stream that indicate content of said video stream to said preference and profile data within said current user database.

Claim 63. (Cancelled)

Claim 64. (Currently Amended) A system of claim 62, ~~wherein the biometric identification is based on a physical attribute of said current user~~ further comprising a combiner for generating a combined identification and command sequence for transmission to said set-top box.

Claim 65. (Previously Presented) A system of claim 62, wherein the biometric identification is based on an intellectual attribute of said current user.

Claim 66. (Previously Presented) A system of claim 62, wherein said profile data is empirically derived from usage patterns of said remote control device by said current user.

Claim 67. (Previously Presented) A system of claim 62, wherein said enhanced video content is pretagged to indicate content of the video stream.

Claim 68. (Previously Presented) A system of claim 62, wherein said tags are created in real time by video recognition techniques utilizing key words.

Claim 69. (Previously Presented) A system of claim 62, wherein said tags are created in real time by video recognition techniques utilizing key images.

Claim 70. (Previously Presented) A system of claim 62, wherein said tags are created in real time by video recognition techniques utilizing key sounds.

Claim 71. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling the display of displayed video segments of a video stream utilizing a remote control device that interacts with a set-top box to provide selective programming based upon an identity of a current user of said personal remote control comprising:

receiving recognition data from said current user through the use of biometric identification in said personal remote control unit;

~~establishing~~ verifying said identity of said current user, based upon said recognition data;

communicating said verified identification of said current user to said set-top box;

selecting preference and profile data for said current user based on the identification;

assigning the preference and profile data corresponding to said identity of said current user to a current user database within said set-top box;

controlling said display of said video segments of said video stream by controlling video content of said video stream based on a comparison of said preference and profile data with tags that are placed in said video stream that indicate said video content of said video segments on a segment-by-segment basis.

Claim 72. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 71, ~~wherein the biometric identification is based on a physical attribute of said current user~~ further comprising generating a combined identification and command sequence for transmission to said set-top box.

Claim 73. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 71, wherein the biometric identification is based on an intellectual attribute of said current user.

Claim 74. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 71, wherein said profile data is empirically derived from usage patterns of said remote control device by said current user.

Claim 75. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 71, wherein said video content is pretagged to indicate content of the video stream prior to being input into said set-top box.

Claim 76. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 71, wherein said tags are created in real time by video recognition techniques utilizing key words.

Claim 77. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 71, wherein said tags are created in real time by video recognition techniques utilizing key images.

Claim 78. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 71, wherein said tags are created in real time by video recognition techniques utilizing key sounds.

Claim 79. (Currently Amended) A system for controlling the display of video segments utilizing a personalized remote control device to provide selective programming based upon an identity of a current user of said personal remote control comprising:

an identification input device within said remote to ~~determine~~ verify said identity of said current user based on biometric identification and transmit said verified identity of said current user;

a set-top box that assigns preference and profile data based on the identity of said current user to a current user database within said set-top box, and that controls video segment output by controlling video segment content based on said preference and profile data within said current user database, and that further controls said video segment output by controlling said video segment content based on comparing tags placed in a video stream that indicate said video segment content of said video stream on a segment-by-segment basis to said preference and profile data within said current user database;

a communication link between said personalized remote control and said set-top box for transmission of said identity of said current user to said set-top box.

Claim 80. (Previously Presented) A system of claim 79, wherein the of control of the video output of said set-top box by controlling said video content is based on comparing said tags placed in said video stream that indicate content of said video stream to said preference and profile data within said current user database.

Claim 81. (Currently Amended) A system of claim 79, ~~wherein said biometric identification is based on a physical attribute of said current user~~ further comprising a combiner for generating a combined identification and command sequence for transmission to said set-top box.

Claim 82. (Previously Presented) A system of claim 79, wherein said biometric identification is based on an intellectual attribute of said current user.

Claim 83. (Previously Presented) A system of claim 79, wherein said profile data is empirically derived from usage patterns of said remote control device by said current user.

Claim 84. (Previously Presented) A system of claim 79, wherein said video content is pretagged to indicate content of the video stream.

Claim 85. (Previously Presented) A system of claim 79, wherein said tags are created in real time by video recognition techniques utilizing key words.

Claim 86. (Previously Presented) A system of claim 79, wherein said tags are created in real time by video recognition techniques utilizing key images.

Claim 87. (Previously Presented) A system of claim 79, wherein said tags are created in real time by video recognition techniques utilizing key sounds.

Claim 88. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the biometric identification comprises voice recognition.

Claim 89. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 44, wherein the biometric identification comprises voice recognition.

Claim 90. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 further comprising the steps of:
storing the video segment on a video storage device;
generating a video pointer table comprising an address at which the video segment is located in the video storage device; and

storing in the video pointer table the results of the comparison of the one or more tags and the preference and profile data, wherein the display of the video segment is based on the results of the comparison.